

The Groundplane

SBARA—The South Bay Amateur Radio Association
KU6S Newsletter

March, 2012
Volume 12, Issue 3



Presidents Message

The SBARA board has had another meeting, and we can report that we will have great speakers for the next months. Last month, Umesh gave us a wonderful presentation about an Arduino controlled satellite antenna tracking system. Did you enjoy that? Well, maybe the raffle will become even more attractive to you, we will try to have a few Arduino experimentation sets available.

For the upcoming months we will have presentations about a remote controlled ham radio station (March; something like this SBARA had in mind for a long time already!), another one about a remote controlled quad copter with an interesting payload (April) and a third one about vacuum tubes (May). June will be our field day preparation meeting.

Welcome aboard, Jim K6RIT! Jim has graciously accepted the "Membership Administrator" board position. He will maintain the database, help you with membership issues and cooperate with the treasurer on the annual dues.

This edition of the Groundplane actually contains the board meeting minutes. Have any suggestions? Let us know.

Please remember that we will have a home brew table. Do you have anything interesting you built recently or you are currently working on? Bring it to the meeting! Do you have an interesting project or problem you'd like to discuss during the meeting? Bring it up during the meeting!

The tape measure antenna workshop is coming together. Al WT6K, Umesh K6VUG and I are in the process of looking into the required material. We should have something ready to announce during the meeting. Another workshop about programming Arduinos is in an early planning stage. If there is sufficient interest, we could make that happen.

Our weekly SBARA net is still in planning. We are discussing a format, hopefully we can present a script during the membership meeting.

See you then!
Bernhard AE6YN



Digital Oscilloscope

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Special points of interest

- EMMCOMM 10th.
- Primavera Bicycle Event
- CW Net Startup



SBARA to Support 2012 Primavera Bicycle Event

SBARA has been asked to provide radio support for the Primavera bicycle Ride on Sunday April 22, 2012. The bike ride starts and ends at Logan High School in Union City, travels south to Ed Levin Park, East/North up Calaveras Rd to Sunol, East through southern Pleasanton and Livermore to the top of the Altamont Pass then west back through central Livermore and Pleasanton, over the Dublin grade next to 580, south down Palomares Rd. to Niles Canyon and back to Logan High School.

There are options for rides of 25,40,60 and 100 miles. We need to cover 5 aid stations, plus net control and as many SAG vehicles as possible, up to 17. The most important SAG areas to cover with Ham Radio are Calaveras Rd and Palomares Canyon as cell phones do not work there. An HT with any outside the car antenna will work for SAG. An HT with a rubber ducky and 11 hours of battery will suffice at all the aid stations. We will be using the 147.045+ repeater on Sunol ridge. Except in the area of Ed Levin where we will use W6MLP 145.43.

Morning only or afternoon only shifts are available. Contact Tony Flusche at: ab6br@arrl.net or you may call him at: 510-247-3220.



We need you input for the next Groundplane!!

- Operating stories
- Station construction
- Operating accessories
- Product reviews
- Interesting contacts

Please consider putting an article together today for the Groundplane!!

Tri-City VE Test Dates

Exams will be administered at Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd., Fremont.

Contact: Bernhard, ae6yn at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee. Walk-ins allowed.

Tri-City VE Session Dates 2012

Saturday, Mar 10, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Apr 10, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, May 12, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Jun 14, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Jul 14, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Aug 14, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Sep 8, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Oct 9, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.

Saturday, Nov 10, 9:00 - 11:30 a.m.

Tuesday, Dec 11, 6:30 - 9:00 p.m.



February 27, 2012 Board of Directors Meeting

Meeting was held at Mission Coffee at 7:14pm

IN ATTENDANCE: President Bernhard Hailer AE6YN, Treasurer Don Amyx N6DA, Secretary Al Rendon WT6K, Webmaster Umesh Ghodke K6VUG, Photographer JJ Lerma NW6J.

Meeting topics planned for the next few months:

THE CURRENT LIST OF SPEAKERS LINED UP FOR THE NEXT COUPLE OF MONTHS.

March 9, 2012: "Remote Controlled Station"

April 13, 2012: "Remote controlled quad copter video system"

May 11, 2012: "Vacuum Tubes"

June 8, 2012: "Field Day Planning"

Workshops Discussed

Organize a Workshop for members to build a tape measure antenna.

The first planning meeting will take place February 28th, 7PM at Bernhard's home. The plans are to have details for the March 9th membership meeting.

Umesh suggested an Arduino workshop based on the comments he received after his presentation at the February meeting. The facilities where it could take place were discussed. Bernhard said that Hurricane Electric could be approached since they have supported SBARA for other functions.

SBARA Net

The new SBARA net was discussed. Bernhard presented a script for net

control to open the net. He handed out a copy and asked for suggestions. Don and Umesh gave input to making some changes.

When asked when the net would begin, Bernhard suggested the Monday after the March 9th membership meeting. Umesh brought up the two types of talk net formats and described each. It was decided that the SBARA net would have a similar format to the 9AM talk net that allows immediate comments on any topic.

2012 Membership Update

Al reported that we have collected \$1200 in membership renewal fees. He went on to say that he sent out 90 renewal notices and has received 72 back and that he felt 2012 renewals were successful.

Field day

GOTA Station planned. Satellite Station planned. HF Too!

Meeting Closed at 8:15PM by President Bernhard Hailer AE6YN .

Respectfully submitted by Al Rendon WT6K



January Raffle



Do1Thing

SBARA has joined the ranks of Media. Be sure to check us out on Facebook. SBARAs address is:

www.facebook.com/groundplane

Come on up and check us out and help keep the site going strong!



March Raffle—Mini Dual Brand Radio; and an Audrino Board and Battery Charger.





Mark your calendar...
May 4-6, 2012 at the
Grand Sierra



EMCOMM (EMergency COMMunications) has been a vital part of all the emergency and disaster operations since the invention of the radio. It plays a very important part in getting messages to the appropriate people and places when all other modes of communication have failed.

RESERVE YOUR ROOM
or RV SPACE

EMCOMMWest, 10 Year Anniversary

Reno, NV -- Registration is now in full swing for EMCOMMWEST 2012! This year marks the 10th Anniversary for the ARRL Specialty convention, and we trust it will be our biggest and best year ever! The convention will once again be held at the Grand Sierra Resort in Reno, May 4 - 6.

We are excited that this year our special guest speaker will be Chip Margelli, K7JA who is presently an executive with CQ Magazine, and has a resume like no other. Chip was one of the hams featured on the Jay Leno show, who beat the "texters" with Morse Code. He spent many years with Bob Heil of Heil sound, and is truly a ham radio legend.

Chip will be our Saturday night banquet speaker, and will also present a special forum during the day on Saturday May 5. Remember banquet seating is limited, and this one will sell out for sure, so make your reservation early!

Our Keynote speaker from the ARRL will be the League's COO, Harold Kramer, WJ1B who will bring us a wide range of discussion topics and information from a national level.

This year NARRI will enjoin with EMCOMMWEST bringing it's annual "VOIP CONFERENCE" to Reno for the first time, hosted by Kent Johnson, W7AOR. This topical conference will run all day on Friday May 4, and seating must be reserved in advance. For information on NARRI and it's programs, please check

www.narri.org

For registration and hotel room information, please go to www.emcommwest.org Check back often as we will be updating the site constantly with new information on speakers and forums and other great activities. We still have room for more vendors in our vendor hall, and you may register for space on the website. Of course we will have a couple of great door prizes, and some very nice radios as grand prizes again this year!

If you have a forum or topic YOU would like to present, please send an email to speakers@emcommwest.org.

For all other questions, and to volunteer as part of our team, please direct them to: info@emcommwest.org

We look forward to seeing you soon in Reno May 4 - 6 for the 10th Anniversary edition of EMCOMMWEST!!! 73!

SBARA Calendar Looking Forward

- Fri Mar 9, 6 pm pre SBARA Meeting dinner at Zorbas, 46505 Mission Blvd.
- **Fri Mar 9, 6 pm SBARA membership meeting, Hurricane Electric, 760 Mission Ct.**
- Sat Mar 10, 9:00 - 11:30 am Tri-City VE session, Hurricane Electric, 48233 Warm Springs Blvd.
- **Sun Mar 11, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- Mon Mar 12, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
- Tue Mar 13, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
- Thu Mar 15, 7:30 pm Fremont ARES meeting, 3300 Capitol, Building A
- **Thu Mar 15, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- **Sun Mar 18, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- Mon Mar 19, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
 - Tue Mar 20, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
 - **Thu Mar 22, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
 - **Sun Mar 25, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
 - Mon Mar 26, 7:00 pm SBARA board meeting, Mission Coffee, 151 Washington Blvd
 - Mon Mar 26, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
 - Tue Mar 27, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
 - Thu Mar 29, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz
 - **Sun Apr 1, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
 - Mon Apr 2, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
 - Tue Apr 3, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
- **Thu Apr 5, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- **Sun Apr 8, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- Mon Apr 9, 7:30 pm SBARA net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
- Tue Apr 10, 7:30 pm ARES net, 147.015 MHz, positive offset, 103.5Hz sub tone
- **Thu Apr 12, 7:30 pm Slow CW net, 144.230 MHz**
- Fri Apr 13, 6 pm pre SBARA Meeting dinner at Zorbas, 46505 Mission Blvd.
- **Fri Apr 13, 6 pm SBARA membership meeting, Hurricane Electric, 760 Mission Ct.**

Get Involved with SBARA

...come to a monthly meeting.

Our regular meetings take place the second Friday of the month at Hurricane Electric. Pre-Meeting social dinner begins at 6pm. Then at 7pm our meeting social begins with the monthly meeting starting at 7:30pm. Everyone is welcome to attend, regardless of whether you are a member. Bring a friend! Or if you're thinking about becoming a ham, come and learn about the hobby!

...become a member.

Membership is open to all licensed radio amateurs. The annual membership fee of \$35 help support the upkeep of our repeater, as well as participate in the Annual Field Day, plus other communication events. You can become a

...join a fox hunt.

On the Saturday of the month (around 7pm) organizes a good old fashioned fox hunt. The starting point is in Fremont, Ca. For more information, please contact Don at

...take a VE test.

VE testing is scheduled throughout the year on the second Saturday of the month on even months and on the second Tuesday of the month. Details are in this issue of the Groundplane.

Fremont Repeaters & Net Information

WA6PWW— 147.015 + 600Khz, PL 103.5	123.0
WA6PWW—223.900— 500Khz, PL 107.2	K6AIR—441.525 +5Mhz, PL 123.0
WA6PWW—442.600 +5Mhz, PL107.2	ARES Net Meeting—Tuesday Evenings @ 7:30pm on 147.015+600Khz, PL 103.5
K6AIR—146.940—600Khz, PL	

Are you looking for your favorite Repeater? Here is information you can use!

SBARA Meeting Location—Second Friday

Our meeting location is at:
Hurricane Electric.
The address in Fremont is:
760 Mission Court — Come to the meeting.
Bring your HF transceiver, antenna or HT !

Time to dust off those Keys....

Slow CW Net

The Slow CW net is taking place every Thursday and Sunday night at 7:30 pm on 144.230 MHz.

The net has now its own e-mail address. Please contact us here:

“SF Bay CW Enthusiasts” <sf-bay-cw-enthusiasts at googlegroups.com>

—... ..
Bernhard AE6YN



Trust me, the “A’s” will win in 2012!!

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association., is a general interest amateur radio club serving the Fremont Tri-City area. Records indicate the club has been in existence since at least 1974, and has functioned continuously ever since. We are an ARRL Special Service Club, an California not-for-profit corporation, and a 501(c)(3) tax exempt organization as specified in IRS Statutes. We sponsor training classes for new hams, license examination sessions, and participate in various public service events. If you have a specialized amateur radio interest, chances are you can share it with one or more of our club members.

The South Bay Amateur Radio Association meets on the 2nd Friday of every month at Hurricane Electric in Fremont. The meeting begins at 7:30 PM and includes social time, a business portion and a program of interest.

All persons interested in amateur radio are invited to attend. Families are welcome.

We hope to see you there!

**South Bay Amateur Radio
Association - SBARA
Founded 1974
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**Web Site — www.sbara.org
Facebook—[www.facebook.com/
groundplane](https://www.facebook.com/groundplane)**

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SBARA - Groundplane

The Groundplane is published monthly by the South Bay Amateur Radio Association. Articles and letters are always welcome. The normal deadline for material is the 20th day of each month for the next month's news-letter. Articles can be sent by email to hamradio at Comcast dot net or via U.S. Mail. Contact the Editor for details and submission guidelines.



Upcoming SBARA Events

March Action Packed Meeting

March 9th, 2012 at 7:30pm Hurricane Electric, Fremont

Amateur Exams

ARRL VEC— March 10th @ 6:30pm at Hurricane Electric – 48233 Warm Springs Blvd. Fremont. **Contact:** Bernhard, ae6yn at arrl dot net for info. \$15 fee.

***Additional information is described at Website,
www.sbara.org***

Select License Exams from the Navigation URL.

South Bay Amateur Radio Association — SBARA
The Ground Plane — KU6S
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